

**BEFORE THE
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Application of:)	File No. 800-2013-000803
)	
)	
)	
AMILCAR EZEQUIEL RIZZO)	
)	
)	
)	
)	
Applicant.)	
_____)	

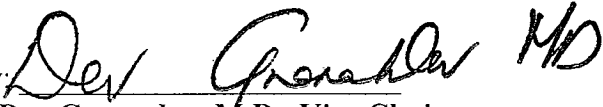
DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulation for a Probationary License is hereby accepted and adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on **January 7, 2014**, although the probation will not commence until the applicant completes any remaining requirements for licensure and the license is issued.

ORDERED: December 31, 2013.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By:  MD
Dev Gnanadev, M.D., Vice Chairman
Panel B

BEFORE THE
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of:)	Case No. 800-2013-000803
)	
AMILCAR EZEQUIEL RIZZO)	
)	STIPULATION FOR A
)	PROBATIONARY LICENSE
For a Physician's and Surgeon's License)	
_____)	

1) Amilcar Ezequiel Rizzo, applicant for a physician's and surgeon's license (hereinafter "applicant"), and Curtis J. Worden, Chief of Licensing of the Medical Board of California, hereby stipulate as follows:

2) Applicant has satisfactorily met all of the requirements for medical licensure in California.

3) On November 19, 2012, applicant submitted an application for a Physician's and Surgeon's License in the state of California. Applicant disclosed he has criminal action pending against him, currently awaiting judgment and sentencing. On May 21, 2013, applicant was convicted of Reckless Driving involving alcohol or drugs or both.

4) Section 480 (a) of the Business and Professions Code states the board may deny a license on the grounds that the applicant has one of the following: Section 480 (a)(1) Been convicted of a crime. Section 480 (a)(3)(A) Done any act that if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license. Section 2234 of the Business and Professions Code states that the Board may take action for unprofessional conduct.

The above support a conclusion that grounds exist for denial pursuant to Sections 480 (a)(1), 480 (a)(3)(A) and 2234 of the Business and Professions Code.

5) Under Section 2221 of the Business and Professions Code, the Medical Board of California (Board) may deny a license to an applicant because of unprofessional conduct.

Alternatively, the Board has the discretionary authority to issue a probationary license with terms and conditions.

6) Applicant acknowledges he has a right to request a Statement of Issues and a hearing upon denial of license for cause. Applicant waives notice of hearing and judicial review in favor of this Stipulation for a Probationary License, which is subject to approval by the Board. If not approved, this Stipulation is null and void and may not be used for any purpose.

7) This Stipulation for a Probationary License shall be subject to approval by the Medical Board of California. Applicant understands and agrees that counsel for the staff of the Medical Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this proposed Stipulation, without notice to or participation by applicant or his counsel. By signing the Stipulation, applicant understands and agrees that he may not withdraw this agreement or seek to rescind the Stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this Stipulation, the offer of a Stipulation for a Probationary License shall be of no force or effect; except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

The staff recommends to the Board that a Probationary License be issued as follows:

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED THAT AMILCAR EZEQUIEL RIZZO, applicant, be issued a Physician's and Surgeon's License on a probationary basis, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- 1) Applicant is placed on probation for a period of three (3) years. Probation shall begin on the date applicant is issued a probationary license.
- 2) BIOLOGICAL FLUID TESTING. Applicant shall immediately submit to biological fluid testing, at applicant's expense, upon request of the Board or its designee. "Biological fluid testing" may include, but is not limited to, urine, blood, breathalyzer, hair follicle testing, or similar drug screening approved by the Board or its designee. Prior to practicing medicine, applicant shall contract with a laboratory or service approved in advance by the Board or its designee that will conduct random, unannounced, observed, biological fluid testing. The contract shall require results of the tests to be transmitted by the laboratory or service directly to the Board or its designee within four (4) hours of the results becoming available. Applicant shall maintain this laboratory or service contract during the period of probation.

A certified copy of any laboratory test result may be received in evidence in any proceedings between the Board and applicant.

If applicant fails to cooperate in a random biological fluid testing program within the specified time frame, applicant shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The applicant shall not resume the practice of medicine until final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within fifteen (15) days of the notification to cease practice. If the applicant requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the applicant with a hearing within thirty (30) days of the requests, unless the applicant stipulates to a later hearing. A decision shall be received from the Administrative Law Judge or the Board

within fifteen (15) days unless good cause can be shown for the delay. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.

If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within fifteen (15) days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide applicant with a hearing within thirty (30) days of a such request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

3) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES – ABSTAIN FROM USE. Applicant shall abstain completely from the personal use or possession of controlled substances as defined in the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, dangerous drugs as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4022, and any drugs requiring a prescription. This prohibition does not apply to medications lawfully prescribed to applicant by another practitioner for a bona fine illness or condition.

Within 15 calendar days of receiving any lawfully prescribed medications, applicant shall notify the Board or its designee of the: issuing practitioner's name, address, and telephone number; medication name, strength, and quantity; and issuing pharmacy name, address, and telephone number.

If applicant has a confirmed positive biological fluid test for any substances (whether or not legally prescribed) and has not reported the use to the Board or its designee, applicant shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The applicant shall not resume the practice of medicine until final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 15 days of the notification to cease practice. If the applicant requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the applicant with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the applicant stipulates to later hearing. A decision shall be received from the Administrative Law Judge or the Board within 15 days unless good cause can be shown for the delay. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probationary time period.

If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 15 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide applicant with a hearing within 30 days of a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

4) ALCOHOL-ABSTAIN FROM USE. Applicant shall abstain completely from the use of products or beverages containing alcohol.

If applicant has a confirmed positive biological fluid test for alcohol, applicant shall receive a notification from the Board or its designee to immediately cease the practice of medicine. The applicant shall not resume the practice of medicine until final decision on an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation. An accusation and/or petition to revoke probation shall be filed by the Board within 15 days of the notification to cease practice. If the applicant requests a hearing on the accusation and/or petition to revoke probation, the Board shall provide the applicant with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the

applicant stipulates to a later hearing. A decision shall be received from the Administrative Law Judge or the Board within 15 days unless good cause can be shown for the delay. The cessation of practice shall not apply to the reduction of the probation time period.

If the Board does not file an accusation or petition to revoke probation within 15 days of the issuance of the notification to cease practice or does not provide applicant with a hearing within 30 days of a request, the notification of cease practice shall be dissolved.

5) NOTIFICATION. Prior to engaging in the practice of medicine, applicant shall provide a true copy of the Stipulation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to applicant, at any other facility where applicant engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to applicant. Applicant shall submit proof of compliance to the Board or its designee within fifteen (15) calendar days.

6) SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS. During probation, applicant is prohibited from supervising physician assistants.

7) OBEY ALL LAWS. Applicant shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in California and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments, and other orders.

8) QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS. Applicant shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all conditions of probation.

Applicant shall submit quarterly declarations not later than ten (10) calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

9) GENERAL PROBATION REQUIREMENTS. Applicant shall comply with the Board's probation unit and all terms and conditions of this decision.

Applicant shall, at all times, keep the Board informed of his business and residence addresses, email address (if available), and telephone number. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Board or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code Section 2021(b).

Applicant shall not engage in the practice of medicine in applicant's or patient's place of residence, unless the patient resides in a skilled nursing facility or other similar licensed facility.

Applicant shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's probationary license.

Applicant shall immediately inform the Board or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than thirty (30) calendar days.

In the event applicant should leave the State of California to reside or to practice, applicant shall notify the Board or its designee in writing thirty (30) calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return.

10) INTERVIEW WITH BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE. Applicant shall be available in person for interviews either at applicant's place of business or at the probation unit office, with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.

11) NON-PRACTICE WHILE ON PROBATION. Applicant shall notify the Board or designee in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than thirty (30) calendar days and within fifteen (15) calendar days of applicant's return to practice. Non-practice is defined as any period of time applicant is not practicing medicine in California as define in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052 for at least forty (40) hours in a calendar month in direct patient care, clinical activity or teaching, or other activity as approved by the Board. All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Board or its designee shall not be considered non-practice. A Board-order suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice.

In the event applicant's period of non-practice while on probation exceeds eighteen (18) calendar months, applicant shall successfully complete a clinical training program that meets the criteria of Condition 18 of the current version of the Board's Manual of Model Disciplinary Orders and Disciplinary Guidelines" prior to resuming the practice of medicine.

Applicant's period of non-practice while on probation shall not exceed two (2) years.

Periods of non-practice will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

Periods of non-practice will relieve respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws and General Probation Requirements.

12) COMPLETION OF PROBATION. Applicant shall comply with all financial obligations (e.g. restitution, probation costs) not later than 120 calendar days prior to the completion of probation. Upon successful completion of probation, applicant's certificate shall be fully restored.

13) VIOLATION OF PROBATION. Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If applicant violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving applicant notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and terminate the probationary license. If an Accusation or Petition to Revoke Probation is

filed against applicant during probation, the Board or its designee shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

14) LICENSE SURRENDER. Following the effective date of this Stipulation, if applicant ceases practicing due to retirement or health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, applicant may request to surrender his or her license. The Board reserves the right to evaluate respondent's request and to exercise its discretion in determining whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, applicant shall within fifteen (15) calendar days deliver applicant's wallet and wall certificate to the Board or its designee and applicant shall no longer practice medicine. Applicant will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. If respondent re-applies for a medical license, the application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.

15) PROBATION MONITORING COSTS. Applicant shall pay all costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation, as designated by the Board, which may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Medical Board of California and delivered to the Board or its designee no later than January 31 of each calendar year.

Applicant agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the above Order.


Amilcar Ezequiel Rizzo, Applicant

11/06/13
Date


Curtis J. Worden, Chief of Licensing

11-08-2013
Date